

PROXY METHODS FOR IP ADDRESS ASSIGNMENT  
AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS MECHANISM

**Abstract of the Disclosure**

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The present invention encompasses a proxy method for providing an IP address to a computer configured for operation on a wide area network using a local area network address assignment format. The method allows a subscriber side network terminal to receive from a locally attached computer an IP address request in a wide area network compatible format and to obtain from a remote server an IP address using a local area network compatible request.

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